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Ethics Unit Queried By Schorr's Lawyer

The House ethics committee, investigating CBS correspondent Daniel Schorr's role in the publication of a secret House intelligence committee report, was asked by Schorr's lawyer yesterday to identify which portions of the report would have harmed national security.

Schorr has been subpoenaed to testify Sept. 15, when it is expected the committee will ask him to reveal who leaked the intelligence report to him. Schorr has said the identity of his source is privileged under the First Amendment and that he will refuse to divulge it.

In a letter to ethics committee Chairman John J. Flynt (D-Ga.), Schorr's attorney, Joseph A. Califano Jr., asked the committee to provide any concrete evidence that demonstrates harm to national security as a result of the report's publication in The Village Voice, a New York weekly, last February.

He also asked Flynt to identify "precisely" the portions of the report harmful to national security and to provide copies of memos from the Central Intelligence Agency or other agencies that identify those portions.

Flynt said yesterday he was drafting a reply, but made it clear that the reply would not comply with Califano's request.

Yesterday the ethics committee questioned under oath 17 staff members of the now-defunct intelligence committee, asking them whether they gave the report to Schorr or anyone else or if they know who did.

All but one denied leaking the report or any knowledge of the leak.

One former investigator for the intelligence committee, James C. Mingee III, asked to testify in closed session. Both he and the committee members refused to reveal what Mingee said, but one more day of hearings was scheduled for next Tuesday, the day before Schorr is to take the stand.

Flynt refused to say whether the extra day was necessary because of something Mingee told him or what witnesses might be called or recalled.